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The objects as usually given for these grants may be grouped as: for equitable mitigation of inequalities in financial burdens; to secure necessary supervision and control by the national government; to encourage the kinds of expenditures most desirable in the interest of the community as a whole. The chief object, of course, to social reformers is the possibility of thus securing a "national minimum" in the elements of civilization upon which the whole community should insist. For example, the Home Office has been able, through grants and supervision, to secure everywhere a national minimum of county constabulary: it has not been able to secure such in the field of child protection and nature, under abundant laws, because there is no provision for a central authority to supervise, with effectiveness, the local authorities. Public opinion is working in the way of national regulation through grants in the following services: public health, provision for the ill in mind and body, and all-round education of the child.

Student workers in the United States may well consider the thesis of this little book; for they must more and more face that vital problem of democracy—how to get local communities to use special knowledge in civics and social matters. We shall probably use more state coöperation and money with local authorities in matters of education and health. Mr. Webb well pleads for a truly educational use of such coöperation. England has so far failed too much in getting full returns for the large investment in grants. But the expression of the government's buying the right to regulate is not a helpful one. Logically carried out, the government could not regulate private agencies, as of education or charity, without the use of public money. We prefer the theory of a reasonable responsibility of the state for all its creatures, corporations public or private, without question of public money.

JEFFREY R. BRACKETT.

*Année Sociale Internationale, 1912. Troisième Année.* (Reims: Action Populaire. 1912. Pp. 768, 209. 9 fr.)

Much interesting information on current social questions is conveniently accessible in this volume. Its point of view, that of the Roman church, leads to but brief and unfavorable treatment of such a topic as socialism. Part I, dealing with the family, discusses vital statistics, housing, hygiene, moral and social problems

(alcoholism, obscenity, criminality), cost of living, woman. The discussion is of remedial and constructive developments, chiefly for France, much less elaborately for other countries. A similar procedure is followed in the subsequent parts: Trade Unionism, Labor Legislation, Socialism, Coöperation, Mutual and Social Insurance. In an appendix the year's developments are reviewed for each of a series of foreign countries. Authoritative sources of information seem in general to have been utilized. The brief special bibliographies scattered through the volume are valuable, but readers of another school of thought will desire to supplement them.

R. F. F.

#### NEW BOOKS

BAGNELL, R. *Economic and moral aspects of the liquor business and the rights and responsibilities of the state in the control thereof.* (New York: Funk & Wagnalls. 1912. Pp. viii, 178. 75c.)

DAVIS, B. M. *Agricultural education in the public schools.* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press. 1912. Pp. 163. \$1.)

DEHERME, G. *Les classes moyennes, étude sur le parasitisme social.* (Paris: Perrin & Cie. 1912. 3.50 fr.)

JEPHSON, A. W. *Municipal work from a christian standpoint. Christian Social Union handbook.* (London: Mowbray. 1912. Pp. 216. 2s.)

LINDEMANN, H. and SUDEKUM, A. *Kommunales Jahrbuch. Vierter Jahrgang 1911-1912.* (Jena: Fischer. 1912. 16 m.)  
Contains sections on housing, labor, charity, and taxation.

MONEY, C. *Things that matter. Papers upon subjects which are, or ought to be, under discussion.* (London: Methuen & Co. 1912. Pp. x, 229. 5s.)

These essays include questions relating to wages and industry, prices and the cost of living, education, insurance, emigration, and foreign investments.

NEARING, S. and N. M. S. *Woman and social progress. A discussion of the biologic, domestic, industrial, and social possibilities of American women.* (New York: Macmillan Co. \$1.50.)

RANO, D. *Como vive il popolo a Roma.* (Pescara: Croce. 1912. Pp. 923. 10 fr.)

Careful distinction is made between beggars and deserving poor. Numerous statistics are given. A second volume will treat of moral conditions.

REES, J. D. *Current political problems with pros and cons.* (New York: Longmans, Green & Co. 1912. Pp. 11, 423. \$1.40.)